CLAIMS

1. A process for forming amorphous atorvastatin, comprising:
   (a) dissolving atorvastatin in a solution comprising a hydroxylic solvent; and
   (b) rapidly evaporating said hydroxylic solvent from said solution to form amorphous atorvastatin.

2. The process of claim 1 wherein said hydroxylic solvent is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, n-propanol, and iso-propanol.

3. The process of claim 2 wherein said hydroxylic solvent is methanol.

4. The process of claim 1 wherein said evaporation in step (b) is carried out such that at least 90 wt% of said solvent is removed from said solution in less than five minutes.

5. The process of claim 1 wherein said evaporation in step (b) is carried out such that at least 90 wt% of said solvent is removed from said solution in less than one minute.

6. The process of claim 1 wherein said solvent is evaporated by spray-drying.

7. The process of claim 1 wherein said solvent is evaporated by spray-coating said solution onto a core, affording an atorvastatin coated core.

8. The process of claim 7 wherein said core is selected from the group consisting of non-pareil seeds, sugar beads, wax beads, glass beads, lactose, microcrystalline cellulose, polymer beads, starch, colloidal silica, calcium carbonate, and calcium phosphate.

9. The process of claim 7 wherein said core is selected from the group consisting of a tablet, pill, multiparticulate and capsule.

10. The process of claim 9 wherein said tablet, pill, multiparticulate, or capsule contains a drug.

11. The process of claim 1 wherein said amorphous atorvastatin is in the form of particles having a mean average diameter of less than 500 μm.

12. The process of claim 1 wherein said amorphous atorvastatin is in the form of particles having a mean average diameter of less than 100 μm.

13. The process of claim 11 wherein said particles have a span of about 3 or less.

14. The process of claim 13 wherein said particles have a span of about 2.5 or less.

15. The process of claim 7 wherein evaporation is carried out such that at least 90 weight % of said solvent is removed from said solution in less than five minutes.

16. The process of claim 7 wherein evaporation is carried out such that at least 90 weight % of said solvent is removed from said solution in less than one minute.

17. The process of claim 1 wherein said amorphous atorvastatin has a residual solvent level of less than 1 wt %.

18. The process of claim 7 wherein said atorvastatin coated core has a residual solvent level of less than 1 wt %.

19. A composition of amorphous atorvastatin wherein said amorphous atorvastatin is layered around a core.

20. The composition of claim 19 wherein said core is selected from the group consisting of non-pariel seeds, sugar beads, wax beads, glass beads, lactose, microcrystalline cellulose, polymer beads, starch, colloidal silica, calcium carbonate, and calcium phosphate.

21. The composition of claim 19 wherein said core is selected from the group consisting of a tablet, pill, multiparticulate and capsule.

22. The composition of claim 21 wherein said tablet, pill, multiparticulate, or capsule contains a drug.